



**National Park Service**  
U.S. Department of the  
Interior

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## CHIRICAHUA NM AND FORT BOWIE NHS – NEWS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

February 19, 2010

Contact: Kym Hall, Superintendent

### Celebrate Archaeology Month with Special Programs

Chiricahua National Monument (NM) and Fort Bowie National Historical Site (NHS) are pleased to announce several special events for the month of March 2010. All these events and programs are being presented in conjunction with Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month, an annual celebration sponsored by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office.

Special programs at Fort Bowie NHS will kick off on **Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** with two tours. The morning tour of the Bascom Affair site, led by park ranger Larry Ludwig, an expert on the Apache Wars and the archaeology of Fort Bowie, will help visitors learn about the history and archaeology associated with the incident that precipitated the Apache Wars. The tour starts at **10am** at the Fort Bowie NHS trailhead parking lot. Bring water, hiking shoes, sun protection and lunch. Call for reservations: Larry Ludwig, (520) 847-2500. This event is free to the public.

The afternoon tour of Fort Bowie NHS on **March 13<sup>th</sup>** will be led by Randy Skeirik, Historical Architect with the Vanishing Treasures (VT) Program. The VT Program focuses on the preservation of sites that are in a state of ruin and Randy will discuss the first Fort Bowie and current documentation and preservation of that site. The first fort was built on a rise above Apache Spring and stood there as sentinel from 1862 until 1869 when the larger fort was built. Last year for the first time, this fort was accurately mapped using a state-of-the-art survey device known as a ‘total station.’ The total station combines GPS and laser technology to allow for the accurate location of points in three dimensions. See a total station unit, compare the “before” and “after” maps, and learn about the challenges of preserving sites that are in a state of ruin. Meet at the Fort Bowie NHS visitor center at **1pm** for the short hike to the first Fort Bowie. Bring water, hiking shoes and sun protection. No reservations required. This event is free to the public.

Fort Bowie NHS will end its Archaeology Month programs on Saturday, **March 27<sup>th</sup>** with a tour of the Battle of Apache Pass site. Learn about the archaeology associated with this significant event in the Apache Indian Wars. The tour will be led by park ranger

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**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA**

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Larry Ludwig, an expert on the Apache Wars and the archaeology of Fort Bowie. Meet at **10am** at the Fort Bowie NHS trailhead parking lot. Bring water, hiking shoes, sun protection and lunch. Call for reservations: Larry Ludwig, (520) 847-2500. This event is free to the public.

The Fort Bowie NHS trailhead parking lot is located 13 miles south of the town of Bowie on Apache Pass Rd. Take exit 362 off of the I-10 to access Apache Pass Rd.

Chiricahua NM will feature a program on the Buffalo Soldiers of the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry **every Saturday in March**. Come learn about how their efforts helped in the last campaign to recapture Geronimo. Bring water, sunscreen and hiking shoes. Meet at **10am** at the Faraway Ranch parking lot in Chiricahua NM. Regular fees for entrance to the park will apply; no additional charge for the program.

Chiricahua NM will also highlight the efforts of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) at **7pm on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>** in the campground amphitheater. These special evening programs will cover the legacy left behind by the 'CCC Boys' and how they helped make the Monument you enjoy today. Bring hot drinks and snacks! Regular entrance and camping fees will apply; no additional charge for the program.

Chiricahua National Monument is located 35 miles south of Willcox, Arizona. From Willcox take Arizona Highway 186 southeast to the junction with Arizona Highway 181. Turn east and take Highway 181 four miles to the monument entrance.

For more information contact the Visitor Centers at:  
Chiricahua National Monument, 12856 E. Rhyolite Creek Rd. Willcox, AZ  
(520) 824-3560 x302; [www.nps.gov/chir](http://www.nps.gov/chir)  
Fort Bowie National Historic Site, 3203 S. Old Fort Bowie Rd., Bowie, AZ  
(520) 847-2500 x1; [www.nps.gov/fobo](http://www.nps.gov/fobo)

Visitor centers at Chiricahua National Monument and Fort Bowie National Historic Site are open 7 days a week, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, except Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Fort Bowie NHS is free. Chiricahua NM charges an entrance fee of \$5 per person for those 16 years of age and over; visitors 15 and under are free. Annual passes are also available, including the Chiricahua NM pass (\$20.00) which provides access to Chiricahua NM for one year for the cardholder and 3 adults. Money collected from the sale of entrance fees and passes at Chiricahua NM stay in the park to help support projects, programs, and activities.

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